

REMARKS

Claims 14-16 are pending. Claims 1-13 are canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of claims 14 and 16.

Applicant notes that the Examiner objected to claims 8 and 13 in the Final Office Action mailed January 4, 2007, stating that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the elements of the base claim(s). However, applicant respectfully submits that claims 8 and 13 were canceled in Applicant's response filed October 12, 2006, and therefore should not have been objected to in the Final Office Action. Claims 15 and 16 include the subject matter of canceled claims 8 and 13, respectively, rewritten in independent form to include all of the elements of the base claim(s). Thus, applicant submits that the allowance of claim 16 is consistent with the Examiner's statement that claim 13 contains allowable subject matter. However, because claim 15 includes the subject matter of claim 8 rewritten in independent form to include all of the elements of the base claim(s), applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's rejection of claim 15 in the Final Office Action appears to be inconsistent with the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claim 8. Therefore, claim 15 should also be allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 7, 9-12 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gitlin et al. (US 5,880,620).

Claims 6, 7 and 9-12 are canceled, and the rejection of these claims is therefore moot. As stated above, claim 15 includes the subject matter of claim 8 rewritten in independent form to include all of the elements of the base claim(s). The Examiner has indicated that claim 8 included allowable subject matter. Therefore, claim 15 is allowable over Gitlin et al.

Application No. 09/588,351
Amendment dated March 26, 2007
After Final Office Action of January 4, 2007

Docket No.: 20136-00305-US

Conclusion

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 09-0458, under Order No. 20136-00305-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: April 4, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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